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Docket No.: R2184.0137/P137
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Hideaki Hirai, et al.

Examiner: Nabil Z. Hindi

Application No.: 10/086,442

Art Unit: 2655

Filed: March 4, 2002

For: OPTICAL ELEMENT, OPTICAL PICKUP
UNIT, AND OPTICAL DISK DRIVE UNIT

RESPONSE TO ELECTION OF SPECIES REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This paper is in response to the Election of Species requirement set forth in the Office Action mailed October 15, 2004. Applicants hereby elect the species illustrated in FIG. 3 for continued examination without traverse. At least claims 1-4, 6, 7, and 9-13 read upon FIG. 3.

Applicants respectfully submit that at least some of the non-elected claims can be examined together with the elected claims without imposing a serious burden on the Examiner. See M.P.E.P. § 803. Accordingly, the response is made with traverse.

An action on the merits of all the claims and a Notice of Allowance thereof are respectfully requested.

Dated: November 12, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

By 

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